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Our File No. 9281-3917  
Client Reference No. N US00009

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JDS  
P. 2/5

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Naoya Hasegawa et al. )  
Serial No. To Be Assigned )  
Filing Date: Herewith )  
For: Spin-Valve Thin-Film Magnetic )  
Element and Method for Making the )  
Same )



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit references A1 - A3 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

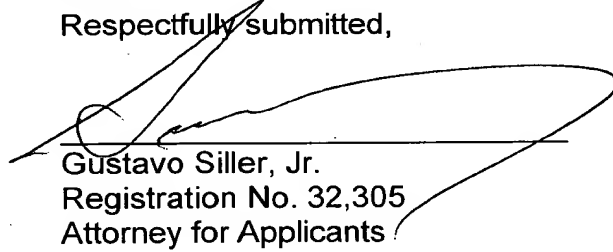
Applicants also wish to disclose, co-pending U.S. Application Serial No. 09/586,624, filed June 2, 2000, entitled "Spin-Valve Type Magnetoresistive Sensor and Method of Manufacturing the Same" (copy not attached) commonly assigned to the Assignee of the present invention, corresponding to Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 11-157132.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicants reserve the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and Applicants do not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicants' invention or that these references make Applicants' invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for Applicants

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<b>FORM PTO-1449</b>  <b>LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  (use several sheets if necessary)	SERIAL NO. TO BE ASSIGNED	CASE NO. 9281-3917
	FILING DATE HEREWITH	GROUP ART UNIT
	APPLICANTS: Naoya Hasegawa et al.	

REFERENCE DESIGNATION			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	5,422,571	06/06/1995	Gurney et al.		
	A2	5,972,420	10/26/1999	Saito et al.		
	A3	5,768,067	06/16/1998	Saito et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	
	A4	Co-pending U.S. Application Serial No. 09/586,624, filed June 2, 2000, entitled "Spin-Valve Type Magnetoresistive Sensor and Method of Manufacturing the Same" (copy not attached) commonly assigned to the Assignee of the present invention.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.